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January 11, 2002

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/779,152
Title: *Diagnostic Assays and Kits for Body Mass and Cardiovascular Disorders*
Applicant(s): Susan L. Acton, et al.
Filed: February 8, 2001
Our Reference: MNI-172CP2

Dear Sir:

I enclose herewith for filing in the above-identified application the following:

1. Preliminary Amendment and Response to Restriction Requirement (including Appendix A and Version with Markings to Show Changes Made (9 pages); and
2. Return receipt postcard.

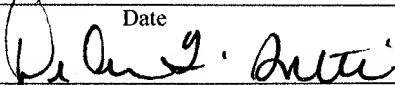
Please charge any necessary fees to our Deposit Account No. 12-0080. The undersigned requests any extensions of time necessary to respond. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Certificate of First Class Mailing (37 C.F.R. §1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence is deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

January 11, 2002

Date



DeAnn F. Smith, Esq., Reg. No. 36,683

Respectfully submitted,

LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP



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